



Antonio Salazar
Chief of Police



City of Las Vegas

Police Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 3:00 pm

Opening

The regular meeting of the City of Las Vegas Police Advisory Commission Meeting was called to order on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 3:08 pm in the Council Chambers by Chairman Roy Montibon.

Members Present

Roy Montibon, Joe Whiteman, and Mary Helen Wickert.

Also Present

Chief Antonio Salazar and Administrative Assistant Raelene D. Lopez-Gonzales

Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Joe Whiteman for approval of agenda as second by Mary Helen Wickert motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mary Helen Wickert approved minutes from July 15, 2021 second by Joe whiteman motion carried.

Public Input

No public Input was submitted



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Business Items

1. Introduction of new Chief of Police Antonio Salazar:

Chief Antonio Salazar gives a brief background on himself.

Mary Helen Wickert asks about Chief's law enforcement background and credentials and if Chief can share his ideas he plans to bring to the police department. Chief Salazar tells members in 2006 he started his career in law enforcement as a corrections officer at the San Miguel county detention center. In 2009 he moved to Clovis NM and continued with his career in law enforcement, where he graduated from Southeastern New Mexico police academy. Shortly after that he became a deputy for the Curry County Sheriff's Office from there he was a Sergeant at the San Miguel County Sheriff's Office, and currently three years with the Las Vegas Police Department.

Chief Salazar also has hundreds of hours of training of different types such as defensive tactics training, escalation training including hundreds of hours of different specialized training for the department.

Chief Salazar wants to be more involved with the schools. Chief also stated he would like to educate the public to have a better understanding on why police have to do certain things. Chief explains if we can educate even just the minimal amount of people we can get the communication open. Chief Salazar says these kinds of meetings will help our department help the community. The police department needs help from the public to be our eyes and our ears for us.

Mr. Whiteman asked the chief if the department was studying any prescriptive police officer standards for candidates for hire? How does the department determine if these applicants are members of extremist organizations or Proud Boys? Chief Salazar answers by saying the department does an extensive background check on all applicants. Background checks take up to a week, possibly longer. The investigator assigned to the background dives deeper and the investigator checks the national crime information center if the applicant committed any crime.

Chairman Montibon says he would like to set up public forums with the public in the community and maybe meet in the Plaza or another building to talk about some things and ideas so the public can educate us on what's going on out there. Mr. Montibon says we could encourage the public to come to these meetings.



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Discussion Items

1. Final Survey Review

Mr. Montibon explains the survey to the chief on how it was designed to work for the community and the police department. The design is general and generic; the survey is not meant to be for people to just vent anger. The commission would like the Chief's input. Mr. Montibon further explains that the members didn't think of all of these questions themselves they checked around with other other police departments and got copies from the the Internet and got tried tested and true types of questions that is designed to get the most relentless questions that came from an official Department of Justice surveys provide Police Department all over the country in the last meeting it was voted to choose the shorter version. Mr. Montibon also tells Chief at the last meeting after going over it, it actually covers a lot of the same material a bit more streamlined and simple. This committee wanted to make this easy for people to do the survey. Once the survey is located with all of the notes on it this committee can simply reformat it. Mr. Montibon says the shorter survey had some really big input regarding crimes against women that were not listed on the original long survey so the committee added those as well as other types of domestic violence. The survey is designed and intended only for those who are 18 and older and those who are adults.

Mr. Montibon mentions that this survey can be done electronically and can also be built on the Survey Monkey platform. Copies could be added in various places around town and could be advertised online through My Civic 311 app and through the city website. And possibly have a table out front of Walmart or wherever people gather.

Other Business

Members bring up concerns and issues that have been occurring.

Mr. Montibon, had concerns about the parties that occur in his area and how he has addressed these issues to the New Mexico Highland University President. Chief tells members that city police work closely with Highlands PD and have been addressing issues to the coaches in reference to these incidents occurring.



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Mrs. Wickert addressed issues with domestic violence and crimes against women. M. Wickert asked the Chief his thoughts on these issues. Chief Salazar says the department works closely with Tri-County Justice Center. Chief continues with the increase of education to these types of issues and concerns.

Mr. J. Whitman asks the Chief how he wants this committee to work with the police department? Mr. Montibon responds saying the advisory commission was created by the City Charter specifies that the governing body is supposed to give us direction there's a lot of things that this committee could do, this group has done a lot of things that we actually are qualified to do. Mr. Montibon made the Chief aware that Lee Einer and R. Montibon made a presentation and went to the governing body about two months ago. There's a lot this commission is not actually qualified for. The Chief says that this committee can assist with community relations.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Joe Whitman to adjourn, a second by Roy Montibon meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm.

The next meeting will be Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 3:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

Minutes approved by:

X

Chairman Roy Montibon

Prepared by:

Raelene D. Lopez, Administrative Assistant II



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